



**Willam G. Batchelder**  
Speaker, Ohio House of Representatives

**Chairman Julius Genachowski**  
**Federal Communications Commission**  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**July 15, 2011**

**RE: *In the Matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations (WT Docket No. 11-65).***

**Dear Chairman Genachowski:**

As Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives, I am constantly working with my colleagues to position Ohio as the most important state in the Midwest from an economic standpoint. Ohio, like so many of our neighbors in the Midwest and across the country, has struggled to meet the needs of our citizens and foster economic growth over the past several years.

As we work to get Ohio back on track and explore ways to create jobs and stimulate Ohio's economy, it is apparent AT&T's proposed merger with T-Mobile could be a win for consumers and workers by creating new opportunities for large and small businesses in every corner of our great state.

One of the key benefits of this transaction will be increased investment in mobile broadband technologies, which is a critical component for economic growth and innovation. The wide range of businesses and industries throughout Ohio stand to benefit greatly from this transaction, as it will provide for the creation of jobs and present new employment opportunities for consumers and businesses. Furthermore, our small businesses could see a boost in sales and outreach as new markets are opened up through AT&T's high-speed wireless broadband. Larger businesses and corporations will be able to upgrade their existing communications technology and tap into AT&T's impressive wireless network.

The stakes are high for not approving this deal. The Commission's own findings conclude that "American communities without broadband will find themselves left out of the digital

**Committees:**

Joint Legislative Ethics Committee  
Rules and Reference Committee  
Legislative Service Commission

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revolution” and “federal programs must take this into account when assessing the economic prospects of the community.”

I couldn't agree more. And that's why it's imperative that the Commission follow through on this opportunity to expand broadband access and put our citizens and state back on solid economic footing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William G. Batchelder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end.

**Speaker William Batchelder  
Ohio House of Representatives**

**CC:**

**Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker**